

Congress, State Governors and legislatures, educators, and parents across the United States; and

Whereas the 9th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 5 through May 9, 2008, is an event sponsored by charter schools and grassroots charter school organizations across the United States to recognize the significant impacts, achievements, and innovations of charter schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges and commends charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, especially their impressive results closing America's persistent achievement gap, and improving and strengthening our public school system.

(2) supports the ideas and goals of the 9th annual National Charter Schools Week; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools during this week long celebration in communities throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 557—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DOMENICI, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 557

Whereas, on May 10, 1869, the “golden spike” was driven into the final tie at Promontory Summit, Utah, to join the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads, ceremonially completing the first transcontinental railroad and therefore connecting both coasts of the United States;

Whereas, in highly populated regions, Amtrak trains and infrastructure carry commuters to and from work in congested metropolitan areas providing a reliable rail option, reducing congestion on roads and in the skies;

Whereas, for many rural Americans, Amtrak represents the only major intercity transportation link to the rest of the country;

Whereas passenger rail provides a more energy-efficient form of transportation compared to autos or air travel;

Whereas passenger railroads emit only 0.2 percent of the travel industry's total greenhouse gases;

Whereas Amtrak annually provides intercity passenger rail travel to over 25,000,000 Americans residing in 46 States;

Whereas an increasing number of people are using trains for travel purposes beyond commuting to and from work;

Whereas our railroad stations are a source of civic pride, a gateway to our communities, and a tool for economic growth; and

Whereas Amtrak has designated May 10, 2008, as National Train Day to celebrate the way trains connect people and places: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Train Day, as designated by Amtrak.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4733. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON, of Florida, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes.

SA 4734. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra.

SA 4735. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra.

SA 4736. Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra.

SA 4737. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CARPER, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. REED, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4738. Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4739. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4740. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4741. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4742. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4743. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4744. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4745. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4746. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4747. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4748. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4749. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2284, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4733. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 34, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

(d) COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

(A) work to enhance communication and outreach to States, local communities, and property owners about the effects of—

(i) any potential changes to National Flood Insurance Program rate maps that may result from the mapping program required under this section; and

(ii) that any such changes may have on flood insurance purchase requirements; and

(B) engage with local communities to enhance communication and outreach to the residents of such communities on the matters described under subparagraph (A).

(2) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—The communication and outreach activities required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) notifying property owners when their properties become included in, or when they are excluded from, an area having special flood hazards and the effect of such inclusion or exclusion on the applicability of the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a) to such properties;

(B) educating property owners regarding the flood risk and reduction of this risk in their community, including the continued flood risks to areas that are no longer subject to the flood insurance mandatory purchase requirement;

(C) educating property owners regarding the benefits and costs of maintaining or acquiring flood insurance, including, where applicable, lower-cost preferred risk policies under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4011 et seq.) for such properties and the contents of such properties;

(D) educating property owners about flood map revisions and the process available such owners to appeal proposed changes in flood elevations through their community; and

(E) encouraging property owners to maintain or acquire flood insurance coverage.

On page 34, line 15, strike “(d)” and insert “(e)”.

SA 4734. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4707 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill S. 2284, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FERNLEY FLOOD COMPENSATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED PERSON.—The term “covered person” means a United States citizen, an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, the City of Fernley, Lyon County, a person that is not an individual, or a school district.